

COPY

Marc Rideout 54721-060

F.C.I.

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March 12, 2006

FILED

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CLERK U.S. DISTRICT COURT
NORTHERN DISTRICT OF OHIO
AKRON

Judge David D. Dowd, Jr.
United States District Court
Northern District of Ohio
2 South Main St.
Akron, OH 44308

*Don't
Do it + file*

Dear Judge Dowd:

Thank you for your timely and considerate letter of March 2, 2006 which was delivered to me here on March 6. I sincerely appreciate your taking the time to review my request and suggest some alternatives for me to consider.

In your letter you make reference to my mother and her "bad health". I did not mean to convey the impression that she is experiencing any health issues at this time. She did have a fall on some ice and did injure herself, but she is generally in very good health. In fact, she would probably want you to know that on her 89th birthday (she is now 91) Mom signed a 4-year lease for a new Buick! She is quite active and my only concern was laying the groundwork for me to visit her should something happen.

With respect to my own situation I have spoken with my Unit Manager here and shared my desires and your letters with him. What I have found is that I am currently designated for assignment to a "halfway house" in September, 2008. This is an "unofficial" designation because Bureau Policy prohibits any official discussion of this until 12 months prior to that date. It was helpful to me, however, to find out this information and know what the plans are for me.

Regarding any sort of furlough or reduced custody status which would allow me to see my mother (or any family member) I was informed that my crime puts me on a list where I am assigned a "Public Safety Factor" which, according to current Bureau of Prisons Policy, precludes me from being placed in "out custody" status. Apparently the Bureau takes the approach of a "blanket designation" for crimes such as mine, and does not allow latitude at the Unit Manager level for individual consideration of offender history, rehabilitation efforts, or other case-by-case review. There is apparently a procedure whereby one can attempt to request a waiver of the Public Safety Factor but my Unit Manager discouraged me from that route. I'll continue to gather information on this internal process before I give up. I did point out that you had granted me a 21-day furlough post-sentencing, but that didn't seem to matter.

On a final positive note, my Unit Manager did encourage me to pursue the sentence commutation request. I will likely begin this effort near the end of the year. In the meantime I will continue to work hard to show my family, friends, and you that I am deserving of a second chance. Thank you again for your kindness and concern.

Sincerely,

Marc Rideout

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Marc Rideout

NAME

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